

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-26 (previously canceled).

Claims 27-32 are now canceled, without prejudice.

33(previously added). A mold for an optical disc, comprising:
a mold cavity defining cavity surfaces for receiving a molten molding material to be cooled and solidified to form the optical disc;
a stamper forming at least a part of the cavity surfaces;
a stamper heating means is located in the mold die substantially adjacent to a periphery of the optical disc.

Claims 34-36 are now canceled, without prejudice.

37(new). The mold of claim 33, wherein the stamper heating means comprises an electrical resistance heater.

38(new). The mold of claim 33, wherein the stamper heating means comprises an electrical resistance heater operable for one of reducing, stopping and reversing heat flow at said periphery of the optical disc.

39(new). The mold of claim 33, wherein the stamper heating means comprises an electrical resistance heater disposed exclusively at said periphery of the optical disc.

40(new). The mold of claim 33, wherein the stamper heating means comprises a temperature control operable to maintain a portion of the stamper at said

periphery, at a temperature at least equal to a temperature of a portion of the stamper spaced from the periphery.

41(new). The mold of claim 40, wherein the stamper heating means is sized to retard premature setting of the molten material at the periphery, in advance of setting of the molten material at a space from the periphery, thereby reducing stress and birefringence associated with the periphery of the optical disc.

42(new). The mold of claim 40, further comprising at least one thermally insulating temperature booster associated with one of the stamper and the stamper heating means, and wherein the stamper heating means and the temperature booster are configured for one of elevating a temperature of the cavity surfaces and equalizing variations in the temperature of the cavity surfaces, during setting of the molten material.